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Light and Peace

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Light and Peace

Light and Peace

Charles Hall Leonard

"Have thou respect unto the prayer of thy servant, and to his supplication, O Lord my God, to hearken unto the cry and to the prayer which thy servant prayeth before thee this day."

I KINGS 8 : 28.

Boston: The Murray Press

- - 1915 - -

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To

THE CHOICE FELLOWSHIP OF THE CHURCH AND COLLEGE THROUGH WHICH IT HAS BEEN MY PRIVILEGE TO SERVE; TO THE FRIEND WHOSE INTEREST AND APPRECIATION CALLED THIS BOOK OF PRAYERS INTO EXISTENCE; AND TO ALL LONGING SOULS WHO PRAY THAT THE SPIRITUAL MESSAGE MAY BE SHAPED INTO FORMS OF THOUGHT, THIS BOOK IS DEDICATED, IN THE HOPE THAT IT MAY MINISTER TO THE PERFECT LIFE.

Preface

Most of the College prayers printed in this book were given to friends who asked for them at the time the prayers were said. They are now quite as really the gift of these friends as of him who spoke them at first.

What is herein said in the name of the Church may serve to call back days when young men took up her vows and went forth to do her work.

What is herein set down in the name of gracious and grateful memories will be read by revering souls in the thought of a fresh bereavement, and in the comfort of a maturer trust.

What is herein said in the assured belief that in life's evening the soul looks

to God, is said in regret, indeed, in view of life's failures, but more in a tranquil faith, and in a lofty sense of what is good and divine.

On the whole, for the sake of an urgent request, I should like to feel that the book has in it an awakening of the Easter message, and a reviving confidence in the Risen One and Redeemer.

C. H. L.

TUFTS COLLEGE,
EASTER, 1915.

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"He giveth wisdom unto the wise, and knowledge to them that know understanding."

DANIEL 2:21.

For Light and Peace

O GOD, our heavenly Father: We rejoice that, amid all the changing years, Thou art the same, and that to Thy years there is no end. We thank Thee for a great inheritance, and a great history in all things that make for learning and for righteousness, for the peace and light that more and more have come to this college, and for the light and peace that have here been more and more shed abroad to enlighten and to comfort.

We remember before Thee the founders and favorers of this college, and all

Commemoration Sunday, June 18, 1905. The motto of Tufts College is "Pax et Lux."

those who have watched over its growth and held it in wise and affectionate regard.

We are glad, also, for those who have found here a growing life, and noble preparation for a various duty and citizenship.

Help us, therefore, this day, not only in a reviving memory of productive years, and the gifted lives that have shaped our way, but help us in view of what we are in this present, and in view of the promise of what, in Thy great goodness, the new day will bring to us. We commit the college, ourselves, all we are and have, to Thee, in new resolve and new devotion with respect to the great causes which are inseparable from our history, and our daily work and care.

Command Thy blessing upon this oc-

casion, and upon all who are here present before Thee, for all our days and all our lives are Thine: through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

For Distinctive Education

O GOD, who art the Giver of light and of understanding, help us to-day to see what is our distinctive cast of ability and of power, that so we may estimate aright the work of the teacher in the greater offices of education, and in the ennobling results of character and experience. We rejoice to-day in the collective service of the college, and in its allegiance to a distinctive truth. We thank Thee for the yesterdays of patient preparation, of growing discipline, and for the new sphere of opportunity into which now these eager students are thrown. Save them, we beseech Thee, from self-isolation. Open their hearts to the appeals

of Providence, and to the noblest discipline of humanity. Give to them the happy choices by which all selfish ease is broken, and all inspired effort completed. Grant to them now even a greater measure of tranquillity as they stand at the very gate of privilege. Keep them in the pure love of knowledge, and in the sacred thirst for truth and the spiritual good. Give also to the college this day joy and thanks, in view of all its tasks, and its constant call. Amen.

For an Open Way

O GOD, the Giver of all good: We rejoice this day in all the promises of our special college circle, and in the living seal that Thou hast put upon all right endeavor that has here been put forth. We rejoice in all noble aims, in all intellectual gifts, and in all spoken and silent accomplishments for character and scholarship. Hear our prayer for all opening life in those who this day go forth to meet life's care and work. Make for them an open way for trust, for courage, for skill, and for that love which triumphs over all depressing care, that finds the light through and above all dark clouds, and fills the opening future with forms of

light. What marks this interesting hour is not the close but the continuance of opportunity. Be, therefore, with these various young lives in all personal labor and human service, to the end that freedom may become its distinctive privilege, its growing enthusiasm, and its sustained diligence. Amen.

For a Widened Horizon

O GOD, who art the Giver of life and the Author of all good, help us on this our day of gracious memories, of eager ambitions, and of assured success, to the end that we may see the way we have come, and the new road that invites our thought, our most generous will, and our largest hopes. We rejoice to-day in the widened horizon, the unexplored life, and the possible achievement, for these are Thy gifts to all souls who have not fallen from their first intent, and who now come to take up the vow of self devotion. Keep these lives, we beseech Thee, in balanced power; give to them a more discerning insight, a stronger

purpose and will, a deepening compassion. Create within them the consciousness of all historic life, so that they may know that they belong to a spiritual kindred. May they take with them, as they go hence, the gains of a positive knowledge with which the college life has enriched them. Help them to face, with a quiet eye and a strong heart, the world of opportunity. Hear also our prayer this day for this college, its overseers, its officers, and faculties. Help us to see that the true and the good can never be severed in our aspirations, nor in our trust. Amen.

For an Ampler Faith

O GOD, who givest truth for the mind, law for the conscience, and love for man's affections, visit our college circle this day, when we come to face results in intelligence, in right purpose, and in the mature wisdom of the soul. Grant to-day some clear insight of the product of student years, a calmer confidence in the high offices of opportunity, and in the scholar's call to serve the growing need of the world. To this end, grant an ampler faith in man's possibilities, a more patient hope for man's use of a disciplined intelligence, and a growing courage along the years in view of the suffering need of the world. Help them to confide in the

inner realities of human life, and to give themselves, more and more, to aspiration and trust.

Hear to-day the prayers of parents and friends that this young life, now swayed with the new sense of responsibility, may rejoice, not that the hour of release has come, but that the dawn of a new day smiles for thought and effort. Grant new light and peace to this college; guard anew its wise and eager oversight; and help its officers and teachers in all their cares and trusts. Amen.

For Devotion to Life's Needs

O THOU, who art the Teacher of all those who serve Thee in the schools of the world, and especially of those who serve Thee in the higher institutions of learning, we rejoice in their devotion to the great interests of the intellectual life, and to the recurrent call of the reopening thought, and to the methods of the new day. Help us in the study of that progressive endeavor, which here and now this day celebrates. We yield to the swift retrospect of the appointed years of study, and to the maturer vision of the years of promise that here to-day holds the near yesterdays of student life in review, and waits before the quick path of a special devotion to the world of need.

Grant unto these young men and women the patience of hope, the vigor of faith after struggle, and the calm assurance of disciplined faculties. Anew to-day we give this college to the great offices of light and peace. Anew we ask for a continued loyal oversight and a strong immediate devotion of those who have known her protection and guidance along the years. Open all our souls to the quest of the future, and to the nobler vision of truth and goodness. Amen.

For Light from Light

O GOD, who art Light and livest in light, grant unto this day the revealing light of a growing intelligence, the deepening light of invigorating purpose, and the ever-widening light of love. Grant also unto this day and this occasion, which is at once an ending and a beginning, the seal of Thy divine approval, and the aid of that inspiration which is always from above, and more and more along the path of larger knowledge, a growing virtue, and an ampler faith. Here to-day for these waiting students is the approval of interested teachers, the joy of parents and the welcoming interest of friends.

Grant Thy blessing upon this waiting

young life, and open to it more and more the chosen way, and the vaster opportunity. Give to this eager life the steady toil in view of the world's growing activities and its manifold needs. Save us, we beseech Thee, from all task-work, and increase in us all generous enthusiasms. What more can we ask than that we be held to the attractions of all light, and to the service of all that is right and holy, that so we may be kept in simplicity and faithfulness. In the name and as the disciples of Jesus Christ. Amen.

For Consecrated Intelligence

O GOD, to whom can we go on this day of great memories and of disciplined anticipations, but to Thee who dost endow the years and hallow all human endeavors! Teach us to listen anew to the voices of the years that have been spent in the study of inviting subjects, amid the wholesome rivalries of the classroom. Guard us against the intellectual vagrancies of all false effort, and cheer us along the future way by the gracious persuasiveness of student comradeship and the ennobling call from the world of activities. We rejoice to-day in the wise faithfulness of devoted teachers, and in all their efforts in this place, to honor learning, to in-

spire students with the love of knowledge, and to endow them with the passion for a noble career in the world that calls for a consecrated intelligence.

Hear our prayer to-day for the growth of the college in opportunity and privilege, that so it may be at once an invitation and a challenge. Give wisdom to those who are set to watch over its outward growth, and give a distinctive knowledge to its president and faculty.

For what, O God, do we wait, but for Thy blessing! Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

For an Inspired Life

O GOD, who art all wise, we rejoice to-day in the product of the years, in their value to us in discipline and culture. Above all we rejoice in the specific gift to this college of a maturer manhood and womanhood in those who to-day stand on the threshold of a serving future. We rejoice in the sphere of opportunity into which they are now thrown, and in the many-handed service that beckons to their intelligence and devotion.

Hear the prayer of parents and friends that to-day goes up in behalf of this eager company who come to give their youth and strength to the obligation of life's practical duties. Teach them the

great lessons of forbearance and gratitude. Help them and help us all to seek the peace of Christian charity. Grant also unhesitating reverence for the true and the good. Refresh us in sorrows, if such come to us; give victory in moral struggle; and unite us more and more to the majesty of an inspired life. Amid the distracting turmoil of the world, grant us the victory of a lasting peace. Amen.

For an Inclusive Culture

ALMIGHTY God, our heavenly Father: Thou, who dost shape all history, inspire all human progress and all effort for personal advancement in intellectual life and goodness: hear our prayer in behalf of this college and its continuously directed influence in behalf of the eager young life that seeks its guiding power for culture and character. Help us to count up into the sum of actual life and accomplishment, all the offices of a skilled guardianship and a wise instruction, that so results may appear in disciplined thought, in invigorated moral life, and in a nobler manhood and womanhood. So help them, we beseech Thee, that the

very principle of goodness may assert its vitality, and put forth in more beautiful growths. Grant to us the holy freshness of penitence; restore to us the forgotten accents of conscience; move us by the inspiration of a real mission and the nobler enterprise of love. Hear our prayer in behalf of all right efforts in education. O Thou, who dost touch all the springs of human power, save us from anxious care, and open our gaze to the repose of faith and trust. Amen.

For a Brightening Future

O THOU, the only wise God, the Father of light, and the Source of all knowledge! Send down Thy heavenly blessing upon this college, and upon the occasion that has brought us together. We rejoice to-day in all the activities that have their center in this place by which intelligence is honored, virtue exalted, and true religion increased. We remember before Thee all those who have known the gracious fellowship of student years, and to-day call back the joy when hopes were large, the tension also of noble effort, and all the triumph of happy hours. Grant, now, that the light which so gladdened them

may shine upon the path that opens today for so many young and eager feet. Fulfil the desires of parents and friends as these go forth to share in the attractive duties, and the peace and progress of the world; and bestow upon them and upon us some vision of a brightening future for all true learning. Give ampler life to all schools and colleges and universities; and to all nations and peoples give growing knowledge, the tranquil power of faith, of abiding hope, and the love of goodness and concord.

With Thee, O God, are the issues of all our endeavor. Help us, therefore, to take up the accent of a new trust, and to send forth the plaint of a new desire, that so we may be worthy stewards of a great inheritance; and, to this end, mercifully save us from the disquietude of the spirit; and keep us in the high fel-

lowship of faith, of disinterested love, and of unanxious will. We ask these things in the name and as the disciples of Jesus Christ. Amen.

For the Culture of Character

O GOD, our heavenly Father, with whom are all the treasures of understanding, who dost give calm wisdom and virtue from generation to generation, and by whose mercy knowledge is increased, intelligence spread abroad, and the light of truth made to shine on the nations: Send down Thy heavenly blessing upon this college, upon this day, and upon the congregation here assembled. We rejoice in the noble host here made ready along the productive years for large and fruitful work in the wide service of the world; and we rejoice in those who, this day, go forth from these halls with aca-

demic honors to join the great company. We thank Thee for the mastery of difficulties; for enlargement of life; for deepening resource; for a joyous sense of victory; and for the continuous worth of responsibility. We thank Thee, also, for that fellowship of students and scholars which binds us to the great teachers of all time, and makes sure to the humblest the heritage of the race in personal capacity, in a growing sense of intellectual freedom and in the enduring qualities of sympathy and patience.

And grant, O God, some new tide of power to bear us on to nobler things and vaster. Inspire us more and more with the quest of truth, and keep before us the vision of a perfect state for the individual and for society. Save us from selfish preoccupation, and help us to put first the things that are first, — the

graces of the soul and the nobler culture of character.

Command Thy blessing upon those whose duty it is to watch over the interests of this college, and upon those whose beneficent art it is to teach our youth, and to lead the way to a wider learning, and an ampler life; and, of Thy great goodness, deepen in us the spirit of surrender to Thy will, that, in this place, and in all places of instruction and learning, there may be wisdom and simplicity, strength and tenderness, in larger and purer adjustment, all our days through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

For Helpful Service

O GOD, the Giver of light and hope: We rejoice in Thy guidance, as, year after year, we come to this place and yield to the sanction of the wisdom which is from above, and of that mercy which redeems the hard severities of the world and forever educates an enveloping strength. Here together, year after year, we have learned the constraints and the aspirations of life and character. Help us as we stand on the threshold of a great world where careers are fixed, and destiny shaped. Here to-day is the seclusion of our effort and its constant ministry; there, in the to-morrow, we take up the complexity of life, where the reins are not taken out

of the hands of judgment, and yet where pity and love are patient and hopeful. Give to us to-day some nearer sight of a higher grade of thought and feeling, that so we may be girded for a helpful service in the name of the world's deliverance. Make us grateful for a wise and patient guidance along the way; and give to us hopeful guidance on all the future path. Shield the young life of this hour. Help it to achieve freedom, to rule in Thy name, and to know the prerogatives of the individual, and the high sense of fellowship. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

For the Unfolding Life of the College

O GOD, who art the same yesterday and forever: Help us to hold by the real quality of our passing years, in view of what Thou art as the Author of all good, and the inspirer of all human thought and effort. We remember before Thee to-day the founders and favorers of this college. We rejoice that Thou didst move them to build the college in this place, and so to endue and endow it, that fortunate years have marked its history. We rejoice also that year by year friends, who have seen the need and felt the power of the college, have yielded to the attrac-

tive service of its scholarship, and to the eager devotion of its teachers and its students. We yield to-day to a gracious memory of inspired beginnings, of unfolding life and of chastened results in disciplined character. Give us the courage which comes as the endowment of the years; and awaken within us a discerning zeal for the true and the good, for light and peace, that they may be maintained in harmony. Give to us here to-day the prophetic spirit, that we may not linger with the materials of knowledge, but face more and more the inner realities of human life, and of all aspiration and trust. Save us this day from all perverse discontent, and open our souls more and more to fresh sacrifices and enthusiasms. Amen.

The Church and Its Ministry

"As the hart panteth after the waterbrooks,
So panteth my soul after thee, O God.
My soul thirsteth for God, for the living God:
When shall I come and appear before God?"

PSALM 42: 1–2.

For the Fruitful Years

ALMIGHTY GOD, our heavenly Father: We rejoice that Thou art the same yesterday, to-day, and forever, and that to Thy years there is no end. All our life and all our ways begin in Thee, and end in Thee. Thou dost also attend us in all our endeavors, and in all the movements of our human life. All great causes are with Thee, and Thou dost give motive with regard to them to all Thy servants and children.

We thank Thee to-day that Thou didst put it into the hearts of Thy servants of the earlier time to found this

Semi-Centennial of the Univeralist Church, Medford, Mass.

Christian society, and that Thou didst enable them, in all their effort and care for the sake of the wider faith and the larger hope. We thank Thee for the self-sacrificing men and women who brought hither their best gifts, and, above all, their true lives, and pledged them all in the name of religion.

Help us to see also what recurring faithfulness and religious devotion have been here along all the productive years of this great history, the unbroken testimony in behalf of Christian thought, and the continuous witness concerning the worth of things true and good as originating in Thy love as source, and in Thy Son as the divine way, and in souls that deeply responded to Thy word, and to the inspiration of Thy holy purpose.

We rejoice in those who are with us to-day, in this consistent and loving

sense of brotherhood, the noble band of men and women who here, in all these recent years, have been constant to a great memory, to a great calling, and to a great promise. We remember, before Thee, those who have ministered here at this altar, and broken the bread of life in the face of the great congregation. And hear us for the one devoted life here given to-day for the best good of this parish, and this community. May he, and all who worship in this place, hear the voices that speak across the years, and more and more, as from open skies, and more and more from that teaching that is always strong and gentle and easy to be entreated.

Command now Thy blessing upon this joyous anniversary; and while we count up the days and years into the sum of blessing, may we give ourselves anew to

the things that make for simpler lives amid all the stress and hurry of the world. Keep us in living association with a great past, in vital communion with an encouraging present, and in hopeful interest and affection concerning the future. Help us to show the signs of a willing pupilage; and make us more trustful in Thy love, and more alive to the thoughts that drop and breathe from a heavenlier world. And hear us, O God, in the one petition that stands in the center of our prayer, that we may be right and good, maintaining a resolute fidelity, an unanxious joy, and a deepening peace, — through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

For Grace and Vision

O GOD, our heavenly Father, send down Thy blessing upon these, Thy servants, whom we bless in Thy name. We remember before Thee their early vows; the growing purpose of their hearts; the hopes of parents; their years of wise waiting and study that they might be enabled for their great work; and all the special discipline in the fellowship of thought, consenting will, and affection. We rejoice now in the consummation of their deepest wish, and in the future that awaits their most faithful and loving service. Give grace and vision in this sacred and

The Ordination of a Class of Students to the Christian Ministry.

joyous hour; and grant help unto us in this our solemn act of ordination.

[*The Laying on of Hands*]

By the authority of the Church, by Apostolic sanction, and by this solemn laying on of hands, we do now ordain thee, and, in the faith and freedom of the Gospel, set thee apart to the office and work of the Christian ministry: in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Mercifully with Thy favor look now upon these Thy ministers, that they may go forth with courage and with a pure heart, fervently, remembering the poor, comforting the sorrowful, teaching the ignorant, and lifting up the afflicted. May Thy peace rule in their hearts, and the law of kindness dwell upon their lips. Guard, guide and keep them in all their labors. Enrich them, more and

more, with patient faithfulness and loving wisdom, to the end that souls may be won to truth and goodness, and to light and peace. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

For Self-Giving

O GOD, our heavenly Father: We rejoice in the special and instituted means for the religious life opened to us in the Christian ministry. We rejoice, also, in all Thy servants who have given themselves to Christ and His ministry for individual good and social progress. We thank Thee now for this one life here before Thee, and for the great hope, and witnessing faith, and the growing love, that have moved him during these productive years of study and waiting. We praise Thee for deepening life, for enlarging vision, and a growing selfhood. Have regard unto him in this act of self-giving

in the name of truth and for the ends of religion. Hear the silent prayer of friends, in view of his unanxious joy, as he thinks of the way in which he has been led, and of the opening way that lies before him. Grant now the help of Thy spirit that it may breathe upon him; and aid us in this holy setting apart of this one life and its consecration for the sake of others.

[*The Laying on of Hands*]

By the authority of the Church, by Apostolic sanction, and by this solemn laying on of hands, we do now ordain thee, and, in the faith and freedom of the Gospel, set thee apart to the office and work of the Christian ministry: in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

And grant now Thy heavenly blessing upon this sacred office; and keep this,

Thy servant and minister, in its abiding memory and sanctions. Be with him in the privacy of his own mind and heart, in the retreats of thought and prayer, in all contact with the life he tries to serve, and in all his enlarging work as teacher and pastor. Keep open before him an illumined word, and a brightening way; and keep him more and more in the endowment of strength, of courage, of patience, and of Thine own peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

For Consecration of Pastor and People

O GOD, our heavenly Father: We rejoice that Thou hast called us to serve in the Gospel of Thy law, and in the light and life that come to men when they unite together in Thy name, and in the name of Thy Son, who giveth light and peace to the world. We rejoice in those who along all these years have here been united in the consent of thought, in the assurance of faith, in the love of what is true and good, and in loyal service in behalf of ideas, of principles, and of conduct.

We rejoice also in that noble succession in pastoral leadership which has

made this Christian society a power in itself, and a growing power to this community for united reciprocal life, in zeal for the promotion of a great cause, in religious earnestness and consecration, in devotion and sacrifice, which have distinguished all these years of a productive history. We remember to-day, therefore, our great inheritance, the rare bequest of thought and character, as from a noble company who here walked and worked together, who lived and died in the faith, and left a holier air to rest upon children and children's children.

Have regard unto us, to-day, in the special occasion which has brought us together; and have regard unto him, Thy servant, whom we welcome to this place, to the care of this church, to the wide service among the people of a religious teacher and spiritual friend, to the

strenuous joy of responsibility, and to the enduring motive of personal endeavor. Grant that here there may be intelligent sight of the real end of all sympathetic effort for Christian character and spiritual perfection, wise estimate of instituted means for religious accomplishment, and eager, loving use of facility and personal power in reaching and building up individual lives, and in redeeming society to the spirit and tasks of a Christian brotherhood. We thank Thee for the Christian intelligence, the consecrated will, and the holy love, which this minister brings for the preacher's message and the pastor's care; and we thank Thee also for the appreciative temper of mind, the united wish and prayer, the quick response in affection and service, which here have risen up to meet him, to cheer his coming, and to

open the way to an enlarging ministration of a religious life.

Grant to all who are here banded together the will to believe, the will to do, and the will to be; and so may doubt here grow to faith, distrust and fear give place to hope, and sorrow, all bereaved life, find the comfort which makes strong and the peace that passeth knowledge; and over and around and in all, may there be the mastery of a living faith, and the constant sanction which comes of love and obedience.

And in all our prayer for ourselves today, we remember, and beseech Thee to remember and bless, all pastors and churches and congregations of whatever name or communion, in this goodly town; and we beseech Thee for the town itself, that all who live within its borders may be faithful to its history and great

traditions. Give unto us, we pray Thee, light and peace, strength and trust, unity and fidelity, that so Thy kingdom may come and Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; and unto Thy name be all the glory, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Oneness with Christ

O GOD, the Giver of light and comfort: We look to Thee who dost call us to commemorate a great past, and to keep open a faith that looks to a more fervent future. We desire to follow the Master's journey, and pause with him as He speaks to needy souls from the hillside, from darkened homes, and, at last, from the seclusion of the upper chamber, recalling all the scenery of a last hour and the power of a personal appeal. We look anew upon the picture, at once so sad and so beautiful. We recall, with vivid gladness, the only voice that was inspired to speak; and take to heart the benedic-

tion that has spread to all receptive minds and hearts. Here, to-day, we turn to the Saviour's image and pray for more of his Spirit, that temptations may be resisted, and all efforts towards a more positive life in truth and goodness made wiser and stronger. Here, at the table of our God's communion, we turn all thought of His mercy into an urgent memory. Here also we renew our vows, reconsecrate our friendships, and invoke the shelter of Divine Providence. Here, as at the foot of the cross, help us to lay down the weaknesses that enfeeble, and take up the high resolves which already solace our wills. Oh, for the note of endless aspiration and for the patience of hope, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

In Grateful Memory

"God is love; and he that abideth in love abideth in God, and God abideth in him."

I JOHN 4: 15.

A Fruitful Life

O GOD, our heavenly Father: To whom can we go, but to Thee, who art our strength in weakness, our light in darkness, and our comfort in sorrow? To-day, we know not how to speak to each other, nor how to interpret to ourselves. We turn to Thee, and, first of all, beseech Thee to awaken within us the memory of all that has been precious in the life of our great friend and leader: his wise devotion to the college into which he built his life; his intelligent administration of its affairs in a manifold range of usefulness bearing upon its progress and growing facilities, and in that loving care and in-

terest which reached the endeavor and the struggle of the humblest student. Help us to recall the calmness of his thought, his unselfish regard for others, his generous approval of all that is right and good, and his Christ-like pity and forgiveness toward all the weak and sinful. We remember the words, spoken in private and in public, which move us today with new power, because of this mystic silence.

We desire also to remember all that he was and is, and will be to us, as a part of permanent influence in all the relations which distinguished his life: in the privacy of his home, in the maintenance of a loyal service to the church, in all his efforts as an educator, and in the ampler calls of citizenship.

Help us, O God, in our sense of gratitude for all that this full life has been

to us now that we read it anew, know anew its noble witness to learning, to charity, to religion, and get its larger message as from open skies.

We bow down before Thee, with whom are the issues of life and of death. Help us all to that acquiescence in grief, which, year by year, has been taught from this place, and, above all, breathed in the prayers that here have daily been put up in our behalf. Help these sorrowing teachers who waited for his step, were cheered, day by day, by the denials he so patiently took up, and were inspired more and more by his confident sympathy. We remember before Thee those who, in great procession along the productive years, moved through these halls, and bore hence the mark of the man they had learned to know, to honor and to love. And grant Thy especial

favor to the students, in all ranks, and in all places, here and there, who are now enrolled as members of the college. Have regard unto their sad and questioning hours; and give joy to them also, that they came to know so well the man and president who greeted their coming at first.

And now, what wait we for but for grace and power, both for mind and heart; new motive in view of a great example; new ability to take up the tasks which a great leader has laid down; and new light, also, for comfort to those whose sorrow to-day is deepest, that there may be to them one fixed and tranquil object of thought and affection; and help us all to see that it is no fractional life that we are called to contemplate, but a life, forecast and fashioned in accomplishment, opening more

and more into its own power and beauty, and, at the last, opening forth towards the realities of a world from which all veils were taken away. O God, most merciful and gracious, open our eyes to that grateful vision, that so we may be enabled to go on, to bear up, and to find our highest joy and peace in the field of duty to which now Thou dost send us back, and in the entrusted daily care to which Thou hast appointed us. Grant that, from the trembling moments of our human life, and from the mourner's watch, we may go forth with uplifted heart, and a diviner purpose, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

An Endowed Leader

O GOD, to whom all life is known, and by whom all human endeavor is inspired and directed: We praise Thee for all great causes, and for the instituted means for their advancement and consummation. Especially do we rejoice in those whom Thou didst raise up and endow to be the world's teachers for the sake of progress, and the world's comforters when thought was darkened, when sorrow's look was downward, and destiny itself was clouded by uncertainty and saddened by distrust. We thank Thee for the early advocacy of the religious ideas and sanctities represented in our

present life, and which we reverently associate with the life of the man whom we honor in our studies, in the even temper of our ways, and in the wider horizons for faith and hope. We hear across the years, the strong and eager advocacy of a saner interpretation of Thy Holy Word, of Thy nature, and of human destiny, to the one end of liberty for mind, relief for conscience, and place for affection amid the sorrows of life, and in perplexities concerning the future way. Hear us, O God, in thanksgiving for a marvelous advocacy of Thy Fatherhood, of human brotherhood, and the ampler forms of the spiritual life, that so new impulses might come for worship, for the sources of devotion, and the greater joy.

We recall to-day the distinctive teaching of the great preacher whose throne

was the pulpit, and the loving earnestness of the generous teacher of young men whose faces were set towards the Christian ministry. A grateful tide from those who have gone the silent way, and from those who, in this world, seek to know their great master, sets towards all the places illumined by his intelligence, cheered by his gracious manner, and inspired by his calmer view of the future life, and of the daily walk.

We thank Thee, O God, for the light of a great mind, the warmth of a great heart, and for the even culture of our leader whose mission it was to direct and appeal. Hear us, in the name of the years that have given us the calmer sight of a noble man, a wise teacher, and a faithful friend; and help us to interpret this life as it now rises up in an endeared memory, and as seen through

the love that guarded his home and made gentle his declining years.

Give to us more and more the charm of an endeared life; and open to us the illumined way of truth, and the wider and wider way of duty. We pray in the name and as the disciples of Jesus Christ. Amen.

One Called of God

O GOD, who art our strength, grant unto us grace that we may wait for Thy peace and Thy comfort. We bless Thee for all Thy servants who have given their lives for others, that they, too, might live. We especially thank Thee for Thy servant, our brother, who, at the first, sought care and suffering, and found joy in sacrifice, because of profound and affectionate knowledge of the human heart and sympathy with human need. We remember before Thee his years of preparation, and the prayer of his young heart that life might open, more and more, toward the great uses of denial

and mercy. We remember the day of his distinct call, the consecrating words that sent him forth, and the consenting petition that confidence, and courage, and power might come with new responsibility, and new duties in the far-off land. We rejoice that, in the untried place, he was eager only for a wise mind and an awakened diligence, that so light might rise up in darkness, and that in Thy light he might see light.

We rejoice also in his great love for goodness, and its world-wide triumph, and in that patient hopefulness and blessed conservatism of spirit which claimed nothing, but simply went on loving and serving.

How are we moved in this place today as we turn to think of those in the far land and in the churches of his planting, who wait and long for his com-

ing! Protect and bless them, and protect and bless and help the messengers of Thy gospel who remain; guide and prosper them in all their holy work and give them joy even in exile and privation.

And now, O God, most merciful Father, in pity look upon us, who know not how to speak to Thee of the sanctities of our human love and the divine intimacies, born of the vigils of sickness amid the endearments of home and in the lonely watch of the sea. Thou dost look down on this faithful sorrow and on these dear and outstretched hands.

All was bright beyond to the vanishing spirit, for there was no eclipse within; and he, who, amid all trial, gave dignity to a great mission, found only the ripeness of blessing and the sweetness of heavenly rest. We rejoice that

eternity was not cheerless to our devoted friend. Grant, therefore, that our grief may consecrate our deepest affections and interests, and that this, our martyr-soul, may move us to a nobler purpose for great causes and to reverence for the saddest need of the world.

Unite us henceforth to whatever of truth and sanctity has ever dwelt on earth and found its completion at last: through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

A Living Life

O GOD, our heavenly Father. All our comfort is in Thee, and in our most loving thought of those who are near Thee. We feel that Thou art near us in our sorrow, and dost help us to see the light that has come to our dearest one, and the light, also, that is for us. We thank Thee for the precious life that has been lived before us. We love to recall what she has been as child, and woman, with all the grace that came through the years of her opening life, in the strength and in the beauty of wifehood and motherhood, and in the tender affection she had for friends, and for those she tried to help.

We rejoice, also, in what she is to us now, as a risen and translated soul and an abiding presence. We shall not think of her as of yesterday, but of to-day, in all our thought and in all our love of things true and good, in all our endeavors after a richer life, and in all our efforts to do good and bless others.

We turn, also, to think of her heavenly life, her true nativity in the world of the invisible, and the spiritual. Thy love, Thy truth, Thy grace, and Thy peace were already sent into her heart, to be felt more and more when the days of suffering and waiting came. Heaven came to us in the look that grew on her dear face, in the words she spoke, and in the stillness that came at last. We feel that she has entered into nearer oneness with those gone before, and found a more exalted filial affection and

a more tender love for the angel-life that came to her arms and bosom.

Thou hast only taken her from our sight, to fold her more closely as Thine own. And we pray that we may all be more truly Thine own, through her ministry, that all her life in this world may be sacred to us; that we may see how dear and holy it has been, in the home, in the church, and among the people whom she tried to serve, and in the intimacies of the soul that can never be broken.

Help us to be thankful for these last, peaceful days in her home, where she longed to be, for gentle hands and sustaining hearts here for her sake. We rejoice in the one great love that cheered and blessed her in suffering, and looked with her into the world of light when it broke over her spirit.

Give us, we beseech Thee, the comfort that was hers, and the peace that came as the dawn comes. Help us to hear Thy voice in all this silence, as the new call to patience and hope and duty, the loving voice that bids us go forth without fear or regret. Bless all who are here to-day in this hushed and reverent circle. Bless the many friends of our beloved one who are not here, who yet send to us a great tide of affection and appreciating sympathy. Unite us, O God, in a consenting faith, we who long and long for Thy Divine leading, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

A Ripened Life

O GOD, our Heavenly Father, we rejoice in the conscious affiliation with Thyself, for so do we know something of our lot, and of what is above the reach of circumstance. So, also, do we know the unity of our human life and the strength and depth of those affections that bless our home and cheer our ways.

We thank Thee for the wise love that has been here to bless, to guide, and to comfort from year to year; and, above all, for that ripeness of character, born of trust, and the assurance that the best part of our treasure is with us still, and known to be with us by the very tears we shed, in joy and gladness, as well as

In Memory of Mrs. R.

in grief. We think anew to-day of that grace in womanhood which here has done so much to make life lovely, not in aspect, merely, but in reality, and in opening life to others to be an indestructible possession. We shall miss the familiar object of our affection, but the most precious part in the power of character remains; day by day, year by year, we shall know the strong offices of this mother, to cool the fever of our souls, as once in childhood and youth, to rebuke our disquiet, and to redeem our life unto peace. How can we thank Thee, O God, for the lives that leave our earth with benedictions; and how bless Thee for their guidance in dark places, for their cheer in our toil, and for their abiding love amid all care. If we, at times, weep their tears, help us to see that we can win their peace.

In the days to come, bless us in the memory of one who has been and is so dear to us; comfort and help us with the assurance of virtues that can never be absent; and give us, more and more, the vision of a blessed future for the soul's wonder, for growing faculties, and for an enduring life. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

A Life of Beautiful Service

O GOD, our heavenly Father: We look to Thee as the source of our life, and the Giver of all good, who hast led us in ways we knew not, and wilt bring us home at last. We rejoice in all Thy guidance when or where we cannot see the path, and even when the way lies through clouds.

We know that Thou art with us in the night as in the day, in our weakness as in our strength, in our sorrow as in our joy, and that Thou wilt never leave nor forsake us.

When our friends go from our sight, we know that they are not beyond Thy care and leading. Thou hast taught us that they have but stepped aside to take

a divergent path that rises more and more into light.

We thank Thee for the dear life that has now gone to the ampler world.

We thank Thee for what she has been to us here in this life — the dear sister, the loving aunt, the constant friend — wise to us in all her words and wishes, gentle in all her intercourse with us, full of the encouragement of affection, strong and eager for our comfort.

We thank Thee also for what we have been enabled to be to her; for the tenderness and unwearied watch-care, day by day, week by week, that has been here, to be hands and thought, that her care be not too great, and that she might be strong in days of weakness. We bless Thee, also, that at the last, when the upper voices must have been more distinct to her than any tones of

this world can ever be, that those most dear to her were with her in all the loving silence.

And hear now our prayer for ourselves, that we may see and know that death is of Thy ordaining as well as life, and be cheered by all the witnesses of the spirit, and by Him, above all, who is our Saviour, who has told us of the many-mansioned house of the Father, and marked all the way before us into light and immortality. Thou wilt open the door to us as to our sister and friend, and to all who have gone before, the aged, the strong, and the little children. May we learn to wait amid all our weakness and fear, keeping our minds open to Thy message, and our hearts more and more to Thy peace.

Hear us, O God, as the disciples of Thy Son. Amen.

A Life of Grace and Power

O GOD, Thou who art love and who doest all things in love, all that Thou sendest and all that Thou givest, Thou dost give and send in love. Our life, in its source and in its discipline and in its results, is out of Thy creative and ever-watchful and directing will. All that we have in home, in companionship, in the affection of parents and of children, and in daily care and daily good, is from Thee, and of Thy great mercy to us.

Help us to see also that all that Thou takest from us, in our most cherished objects, our most costly treasure, the one that is dearest to thought and dearest to love, even the most blessed gift of

Thyself and Thy spirit, — help us to see that this too is of Thy love, and is of Thy great mercy towards us. So we thank Thee to-day for the life of this mother and friend; for all that she has been to us in shaping influence in the lives of children and grandchildren; for the power of that truth in character, that sweetness of love, that greatness of faith and hope, which transcends our best words, and flows around and enters into our lives and characters to make them strong and to give them motive. We have not any of us known all Thy goodness to this one dear life, until now that silence has come to these lips and stillness to this face and breast. We rejoice even that Thou dost so order that more and more shall be seen and known, as we live on in renewing memory of the good; and daily bring up in

more vivid thought and quicker love, the precious image of our mother, and friend, interpreting words and deeds in larger, truer, better ways, and seeing all the character in stronger and more lovely aspects. So is it with children and children's children here to-day, and so is it with friends who have come hither with voiceless love to bid farewell to the familiar features, and give new and faithful speed to the risen and newly clothed spirit.

And while we thank Thee for all that this mother has been to us, we pray that some new emphasis out of our hearts may be given to what we have been enabled to be to her. How good and comforting to recall what, as sons and daughters, we have been to this dear one, especially in all these recent years. Renew within us the sanctities, we pray

Thee, that have been the occasion of our most helpful words and actions. We praise and bless Thee that, to the last, this dear mother had the grateful and most reverent care, was the object of a watching and waiting love, of an eager, anxious affection. Hear, to-day, the unspoken prayer of all these hearts, and grant Thy peace and Thy assurance unto them. Help us all to look up, and so enable our minds that things unseen shall seem and be the more real things to us. And while we patiently wait and work, give to us growing vision of those who walk in glorious company amid diviner scenes. Help us to reach forth for the descending mantle of our sainted ones, and, above all, help us to live in the light of their brightening lives. And of Thy great love, bless us and keep us. Through Jesus Christ. Amen.

In Life's Evening

"Thou makest the outgoings of the morning and the evening to rejoice."

PSALM 65 : 8.

For the Power to Reflect

WHAT need is there, O God, for me to turn my thought back that I may read anew the silent way, and anew compute the way that opens before my feet — most of all before my thought and love? In all things, help me to aspire, that the upward way may be open, becoming more and more an endowed path. Help me to see the way I have come — what toils and care have been met, what obstacles in the climbing way, and what promise lies along the road that leads to mastery and the Saviour's rest. Nor can I forget that it is the rest after active toil, born of choice amid the world's need, and, also, after the accepted toil for the sake of those who suffer and wait.

Now, when the years are few, and I reach out for the beckoning hands, give light and strength, that all the past may have aspects of promise and all the future the glory of an accomplished peace. Comfort me in view of all life's sad days; and in Thy forgiving mercy, give light. Amen.

For the New Dawn

O GOD, how else shall we think of the soul's new life than as the dawn of a new day? So has it appeared to Christians all along the way from the earliest discipleship. It is good to think of religion as a first touch of light and warmth, as it comes to heal, to start growth, and to open life into beauty and fragrance. So will life come to many a silent soul; so will it come to wasting lives under the stress of sorrow, and to many a strained and watching eye turned to the brightening future. Nor do I put up this prayer for a future morning in some far-off world, but for the glow of life and the kindled glory of a soul that daily fronts its im-

mortality. And yet, who can doubt the effect of the new radiance that will dawn for the soul when at last the happier season breaks over its wonder? Oh, for a growing life amid all our cares, and amid all the ministry of our waiting; and may joy and quietude be ours when the emancipated soul rises to repose! May life refresh while we stay. May life break over us in the expectation of the new dawn when we go. Amen.

For the Soul's Life in God

HERE to-day, in life's evening, may I rest in Thee, who art the Eternal One and the Heavenly Father, the Divine Energy that always gives itself to deliver from the low place of struggle! And, yet, I am to govern myself for the sake of character in the name of destiny, of salvation and of heaven! For these I am to wait, and not for any mere transfer to an upper abode. And yet, may I be saved from the self-culture that ends in itself, wholly ignorant of the law of service. More and more, the question of life is, What shall I do with my wider thought, my deeper feeling, my abiding skill? Shall I set them down to the account of

place or station, or to the real account of spiritual force and inward life? Here, where I am, may I live in self-denial, in sympathy, in devotion for the larger self, indeed, and yet more for the joy and the peace of the world in the service of humanity.

Above all, therefore, may I see that religion is a near quality. The word of faith, the energy of the spirit, is in the mind and heart. O God, Thou art near. Christianity is near to meet every crisis in history. We draw nigh to Thee and take up the ascent to the eternal life. Amen.

For the Power to Aspire

HOW, O Lord, can I become a real disciple of Jesus, the Christ, so that all thought and feeling may be shaped into character, and character itself shaped into the divine likeness? While I rejoice in the freedom which comes of good habits, I rejoice more in the soul's relationship to an eternal world towards which man may constantly aspire. I thank Thee, therefore, for life's inspirations, which are better than all rules and detail of conduct. That to which man aspires touches the soul in the deeper places, and helps him to discover the power of a spiritual world, and to cast the real self into an approved purpose. Deep

responds to deep; and a tide of the spirit forever obeys the heavenly attractions! Oh, that I may be moved and drawn by the power and the light that are from above! May I have the passion for righteousness, for Thou, O God, hast made man for Thyself. More and more may I yield to life's inspirations, through him who is the Life of life. Amen.

For the Grace of God

O THOU, who didst give grace for man's salvation: All Thy great injunctions and precepts rest on the truth of Thy favor made to appear to all men. It is Thy grace appearing to all men which gives us ground for hope, and direction for our whole life. Help us, therefore, to take our life as a reality — as having worth and dignity, to be lived in truth, and in that earnestness which saves life from failure. Keep us all in the desire of an accomplished good. Help us to see that the grace of God is here and now, saving us, and helping us to save others by the very processes of the spirit, by which God's own grace becomes man's noblest service.

Save us, O God, from formal observances, and help us to share Thy nature and destiny, so that we may always be in Thee, and always rest in an assured immortality. Amen.

For the Soul's Sovereignty

HEAR, O God, my prayer for the control of my fears and my desires, that I may use them to the one end of proper balance in character, and that the soul may stand master over all. Help me to see that the high mark of manhood is the self-governing temper by which the man not only controls the self, but puts himself in accord with all that stands secure, and is fair and good. Save me, therefore, from all vagrancy of thought, from all selfish will, from all wasteful affections, that so I may work in harmony with Thy complete order, seeing and knowing, day by day, that the majesty of all conduct is in the motive that fills and guides it. All

motive begins and ends in Thee, who art the secret of all methods. Right is right because Thou art right and good; and right is right in our human life, because Thou dost bind us to duty beyond all the force of custom.

Teach me the splendor of life's high achievement in spiritual manhood; and keep before me the attractions of duty, and the power of an endless life. Help me to see how ample is the scope of man's life in capacity, in sympathy, and in enthusiasms. Amen.

For the Enterprise of Love

O GOD, Thou didst frame the human mind and give all viewless emotions. Thou didst give the majesty of hope, the enterprise of love, and the springs of power. Help me, therefore, to guard these, our highest faculties, so that I may never suffer them to be put aside by fear or convenience, or to be stifled by any doubt. Help me, and those with whom my life is cast, to aim at perfection. Teach me to keep pure the standard within, to avoid all sudden spasms of thought and feeling, to keep healthy the desire for permanent good, and to win the ascent step by step.

For what more can I ask in the spirit

of faith, and in view of the whole realm of things open to conviction and to conscience? Give me the careful steps of thought; above all, give me the haunting sense of the infinite and the perfect, amid all the shifting borders of knowledge.

O Thou, to whom belongeth the unseen rule of the world, may I be Thy subject in obedience, and in trust. This is my low-breathed prayer amid all the silences of secluded years. Amen.

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